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General Assembly

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Agenda item 15

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 9 September 2016

[*without reference to a Main Committee (A/70/L.63 and Add.1)*]

70/301. Tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the intrinsic value of biological diversity and its various contributions to sustainable development and human well-being, and recognizing that wild fauna and flora in their many beautiful and varied forms are an irreplaceable part of the natural systems of the earth which must be protected for this and the generations to come,

Remaining concerned, therefore, about the increasing scale of poaching and illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products and its adverse economic, social and environmental impacts,

Recognizing the legal framework provided by and the important role of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora,[1] and in this regard looking forward to the seventeenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention, to be held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 24 September to 5 October 2016,

Reaffirming its resolution 69/314 of 30 July 2015 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife,

Reaffirming also its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", by which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, including target 15.7 and indicator 15.c,

Recalling its resolution 68/205 of 20 December 2013, by which it proclaimed 3 March, the day of the adoption of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, as World Wildlife Day, and welcoming the annual international observance of the Day since 2014 in order to celebrate and raise awareness of the world's wild fauna and flora,

Welcoming resolution 2/14 on the illegal trade in wildlife and wildlife products, adopted on 27 May 2016 by the United Nations Environment Assembly of the United Nations Environment Programme,

[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 993, No. 14537.

Please recycle

1. *Stresses its determination* to implement fully and without delay the commitments undertaken in its resolution 69/314;

2. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General;[2]

3. *Takes note*, further, of the *World Wildlife Crime Report: Trafficking in protected species*, prepared by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime in 2016;[3]

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General, taking into account Economic and Social Council resolution 2013/40 of 25 July 2013, to present, based on inputs from Member States and other relevant stakeholders, updated information to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session on the global status of illicit trafficking in wildlife, including poaching and illegal trade, and on the implementation of the present resolution, and to present proposals for possible future action;

5. *Invites* the President of the General Assembly, in cooperation with the secretariat of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, and with the involvement of relevant stakeholders, to hold, on 3 March 2017, a high-level thematic discussion on the global observance of World Wildlife Day, including on the protection of wild flora and fauna and on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife;

6. *Decides* to revisit the issue and the implementation of the present resolution at its seventy-first session.

116th plenary meeting
9 September 2016

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[2] A/70/951.

[3] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.16.XI.9.